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"DYNAMIC METHOD FOR CONNECTING A CLIENT TO A SERVER APPLICATION," filed August 5, 1996.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice Claims 1-6 and 11-15, retaining Claims 7-10 in the instant divisional application. Please insert the following new Claims 16-36:

--16. A network system for processing messages, comprising:

a plurality of clients operable to generate and communicate messages having one or more priority levels; and

a server coupled to the clients, the server operable to receive one or more messages from the clients, to determine a priority level for each message, and to process the messages according to the messages' priority levels and the clients' rotation positions.

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17. The network system of Claim 16, wherein the server is further operable to process messages that have different priority levels in order of the different priority levels.

18. The network system of Claim 16, wherein the server is further operable to processes messages that have a same priority level and were received from different clients in order of the different clients' rotation positions.

19. The network system of Claim 16, wherein the server is further operable to receive a first message from a first client and a second message from a second client, to process the first message before the second message if the first message's priority level is higher than the second message's priority level, and to process the first message before the second message if the first and second messages have the same priority level and the first client's rotation position is before the second client's rotation position.

20. The network system of Claim 16, wherein the server is further operable to store the messages in a queue according to the messages' priority levels and the clients' rotation positions and to process the message in order of storage in the queue.

21. The network system of Claim 20, wherein the server is further operable to store messages that have different priority levels in order of the different priority levels.

22. The network system of Claim 20, wherein the server is further operable to store messages that have a same priority level and were received from different clients in order of the different clients' rotation positions.

23. The network system of Claim 16, wherein the server is further operable to receive a first message from a first client and a second message from a second client, to store the first message before the second message in a queue if the first message's priority level is higher than the second message's priority level, to store the first message before the second message in the queue if the first and second messages have the same priority level and the first client's rotation position is before the second client's rotation position, and to process the first and second message in order of storage in the queue.

24. A server operable to couple to a plurality of clients, to receive one or more messages from the clients, to determine a priority level for each message, and to process the messages according to the messages' priority levels and the clients' rotation positions.

25. The server of Claim 24, wherein the server is further operable to process messages that have different priority levels in order of the different priority levels.

26. The server of Claim 24, wherein the server is further operable to process messages that have a same priority level and were received from different clients in order of the different clients' rotation positions.

27. The server of Claim 24, wherein the server is further operable to receive a first message from a first client and a second message from a second client, to process the first message before the second message if the first message's priority level is higher than the second message's priority level, and to process the first message before the second message if the first and second messages have the same priority level and the first client's rotation position is before the second client's rotation position.

28. The server of Claim 24, wherein the server is further operable to store the messages in a queue according to the messages' priority levels and the clients' rotation positions and to process the messages in order of storage in the queue.

29. The server of Claim 28, where the server is further operable to store messages that have different priority levels in order of the different priority levels.

30. The server of Claim 28, where the server is further operable to store messages that have a same priority level and were received from different clients in order of the different clients' rotation positions.

31. The server of Claim 24, wherein the server is further operable to receive a first message from a first client and a second message from a second client, to store the first message before the second message in a queue if the first message's priority level is higher than the second message's priority level, to store the first message before the second message in the queue if the first and second messages have the same priority level and the first client's rotation position is before the second client's rotation position, and to process the first and second message in order of storage in the queue.

32. A method for processing messages at a server, the method comprising:

receiving a first message from a first client;

determining the first message's priority level;

receiving a second message from a second client;

determining the second message's priority level; and

processing the messages in order according to the messages' priority levels and the clients' rotation positions.

33. The method of Claim 32, wherein processing the messages in order according to the messages' priority levels and the clients' rotation positions further comprises:

processing the messages in order of the messages' priority levels if the messages have different priority levels; and

processing the messages in order of the clients' rotation positions if the messages have a same priority level.

34. The method of Claim 32, wherein processing the messages in order according to the messages' priority levels and the clients' rotation positions further comprises:

processing the first message before the second message if the first message's priority level is higher than the second message's priority level; and

processing the first message before the second message if the first and second messages have a same priority level and the first client's rotation position is before the second client's rotation position.

35. The method of Claim 32, wherein processing the messages in order according to the messages' priority levels and the clients' rotation positions further comprises:

storing the messages in a queue in order of the messages' priority levels if the messages have different priority levels;

storing the messages in the queue in order of the clients' rotation positions if the messages have a same priority level; and

processing the messages in order of storage in the queue.

36. The method of Claim 32, wherein processing the messages in order according to the messages' priority levels and the clients' rotation positions further comprises:

storing the first message before the second message in a queue if the first message's priority level is higher than the second message's priority level;

storing the first message before the second message in the queue if the first and second messages have a same priority level and the first client's rotation position is before the second client's rotation position; and

processing the first and second messages in order of storage in the queue.--